



HOLLISTON

Middlesex County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The town of Holliston was incorporated on December 3, 1724 by virtue of approval by the General Court petition requesting that "the western part of Sherborn be a Town." The name was taken in honor of Thomas Hollis, Esq. of London, England, a benefactor of Harvard College.

The Town has grown from a community of a few hundred residents setting aside ten pounds per year for public education to a community of 13,000 with an annual budget of nearly \$20 million including more than \$12 million for a nationally recognized school system.

Holliston approaches its 275th anniversary as a true community; volunteerism; community involvement, an on-call Fire Department and highly active service and citizen organizations all attest to the sense of community that distinguishes Holliston. The Town also strives to fulfill its role in the larger community through regional initiatives in purchasing, health care and education, and programs involving arts, culture and diversity.

(Narrative supplied by community)

(Framingham Station)

Normal temperature in January.....24.7°F

Normal temperature in July.....72.9°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.9"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Holliston, Milford

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Medway on the south, Millis on the southeast, Sherborn on the east, Ashland on the north, Hopkinton on the west and northwest, and Milford on the southwest and west. Holliston is 24 miles west of Boston; 25 miles east of Worcester; 36 miles north of Providence, Rhode Island; and 195 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 19.04 sq. miles

Land Area: 18.71 sq. miles

Population: 12,926

Density: 691 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Framingham Station)

Normal temperature in January.....24.7°F
Normal temperature in July.....72.9°F
Normal annual precipitation.....44.9"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

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GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 429-0601

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen
Executive Secretary
Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1724

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	8,855		
Democrats	2,340	26.4	%
Republicans	1,664	18.8	%
Other parties	1	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	4,850	54.8	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Holliston town, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	13,801	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	13,801	100.0
Male.....	6,770	49.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	190	1.4
Female.....	7,031	50.9	Mexican.....	17	0.1
Under 5 years.....	1,021	7.4	Puerto Rican.....	60	0.4
5 to 9 years.....	1,262	9.1	Cuban.....	8	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,222	8.9	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	105	0.8
15 to 19 years.....	868	6.3	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	13,611	98.6
20 to 24 years.....	427	3.1	White alone.....	13,208	95.7
25 to 34 years.....	1,282	9.3	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,776	20.1	Total population.....	13,801	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,341	17.0	In households.....	13,760	99.7
55 to 59 years.....	858	6.2	Householder.....	4,795	34.7
60 to 64 years.....	516	3.7	Spouse.....	3,364	24.4
65 to 74 years.....	768	5.6	Child.....	4,953	35.9
75 to 84 years.....	361	2.6	Own child under 18 years.....	4,005	29.0
85 years and over.....	99	0.7	Other relatives.....	318	2.3
Median age (years).....	38.2	(X)	Under 18 years.....	113	0.8
18 years and over.....	9,660	70.0	Nonrelatives.....	330	2.4
Male.....	4,623	33.5	Unmarried partner.....	157	1.1
Female.....	5,037	36.5	In group quarters.....	41	0.3
21 years and over.....	9,356	67.8	Institutionalized population.....	35	0.3
62 years and over.....	1,500	10.9	Noninstitutionalized population.....	6	-
65 years and over.....	1,228	8.9	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	537	3.9	Total households.....	4,795	100.0
Female.....	691	5.0	Family households (families).....	3,842	80.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	2,117	44.2
One race.....	13,696	99.2	Married-couple family.....	3,364	70.2
White.....	13,346	96.7	With own children under 18 years.....	1,851	38.6
Black or African American.....	123	0.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	358	7.5
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	18	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	201	4.2
Asian.....	165	1.2	Nonfamily households.....	953	19.9
Asian Indian.....	46	0.3	Householder living alone.....	785	16.4
Chinese.....	58	0.4	Householder 65 years and over.....	290	6.0
Filipino.....	19	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,189	45.7
Japanese.....	9	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	874	18.2
Korean.....	16	0.1	Average household size.....	2.87	(X)
Vietnamese.....	4	-	Average family size.....	3.25	(X)
Other Asian ¹	13	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-	Total housing units.....	4,868	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	4,795	98.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	73	1.5
Samoa.....	1	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	7	0.1
Some other race.....	43	0.3	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.4	(X)
Two or more races.....	105	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.8	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	4,795	100.0
White.....	13,496	97.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	4,140	86.3
Black or African American.....	145	1.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	655	13.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	42	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	3.02	(X)
Asian.....	197	1.4	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.89	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-			
Some other race.....	88	0.6			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	78
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	0
Federal (Section 8):	48



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Holliston is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 16 and 126. Interstate Route 495, the outer belt around Boston, passes along the Holliston-Milford border.

Rail

Conrail services a freight rail line through Holliston. Contact number: (617) 783-6222

Bus

Holliston is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001x 150' and 4,007'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Holliston Manor Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.